United Nations A/56/L.55

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
10 December 2001

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 20 (a)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Portugal, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yugoslavia: draft resolution

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto and other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations,[1]

Also taking note of the note by the Secretary-General on enhancing the functioning and utilization of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund,[2] submitted to the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly pursuant to its resolution 54/95 of 8 December 1999,

Recognizing the importance of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund as a cash-flow mechanism for timely, prompt, effective and coordinated response by the organizations of the United Nations system,

[1] A/56/95-E/2001/85.
[2] A/55/649.

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Also recognizing that the pattern of utilization has been uneven in recent years and that there is a need to ensure that the Fund is used where the needs are greatest and most urgent,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the fourth humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council during its substantive session of 2001;

2. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to continue to consider ways to further enhance the humanitarian affairs segment of future sessions of the Council;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of discussion of humanitarian policies and activities in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

4. *Calls upon* relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other relevant international organizations, Governments and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the Emergency Relief Coordinator to ensure timely implementation of and follow-up to agreed conclusions of the humanitarian segment of the Economic and Social Council;

5. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

6. *Expresses its deepest appreciation* to those Governments that have contributed to the Central Emergency Revolving Fund;

7. *Encourages* better use of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund, and, in that context, endorses the proposal of the Secretary-General to expand the utilization of the Fund to include humanitarian assistance resulting from natural disasters, humanitarian assistance resulting from new requirements in protracted emergencies and emergency staff safety arrangements for United Nations and associated personnel;

8. *Decides* that the expanded utilization of the Fund shall follow the same procedures and terms of reference that have been established in resolution 46/182 for advances and reimbursement of the Fund's resources;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform Governments regularly on the use of the Fund and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the utilization of the Fund and on further possible improvements in its terms of reference in order to enhance its functioning and utilization, inter alia, in relation to the great need for urgent assistance in many underfunded, so-called forgotten emergencies;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, through the 2002 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, including the implementation of and follow-up to relevant agreed conclusions of the Council and progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.